

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES COLLABORATIVE COMMISSION
MEETING NOTES – JANUARY 8, 2014
CITY HALL, SISTER CITIES ROOM

ATTENDANCE

Present

Gisselle Brown	Rose Dawson	Gwen Mullen
Bill Campbell	Mike Gilmore	Jeffrey Murphy
Rosario Casiano	Samuel Hanoura	Timothy Peterson
Councilman John Chapman	Stacey Joyner	Sonia Price
William Chesley	Mike Mackey	Joyce Rawlings
Hyun Choi	Tammy Mann	Cynthia Skinner
Andria Cook	Sean McEneaney	

Excused Absent

J. Glenn Hopkins	Gerald Mann	Marc Williams
Councilman Timothy Lovain	Margaret Walsh	Emma West
Nelson Majano	Eric Williams	

Absent

Dan Solomon

Staff

Deborah Warren	Carol Farrell	Ron Frazier
Jacqueline Coachman	Barbara Farrington	Shanna Samson

WELCOME

Chair Tim Peterson welcomed the newest member of the Children, Youth & Families Collaborative Commission -- Hyun Choi. Ms. Choi is a student at T. C. Williams.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF DRAFT DECEMBER MEETING NOTES

Sean McEneaney moved approval of the minutes as submitted. After a second by Stacey Joyner, the motion passed unanimously.

PRESENTATION: EARLY CARE & EDUCATION IN ALEXANDRIA RISK & REACH STUDY

Ellen Kennedy Folts (Executive Director, the Bruhn-Morris Foundation) and Brandi Yee (Chief Program Officer, ACT for Alexandria) presented the *Early Care & Education in Alexandria Risk & Reach Study*. Commissioned by the Early Care & Education Workgroup, which is comprised of ACT for Alexandria, Alexandria City Public Schools, the Alexandria Health Department, CYFCC, City of Alexandria and the Bruhn-Morris Family Foundation, the study was launched as a supplement to the Children and Youth Master Planning process to foster a deeper understanding of Alexandria's 0-5 population.

Alexandria's population of children five and under is growing at almost triple the rate of the population overall. More than 50% of children under five live in the West End, where the

number of youth in poverty tripled. In addition, there is a higher percentage of racial and ethnic diversity in children five and under than in the city as a whole. Because 1 in 3 kindergartners need ELL support, it is important to ensure that services are being provided in the appropriate languages.

Councilman John Chapman if the data needed to assess the ability of parents to support their children academically is available. A recommendation was to provide homework tasks for students in the native language of their parents. Tammy Mann noted helping parents address their fears/perceptions of learning a new language has value. Rosario Casiano stated William Ramsay Elementary has met SOL standards for English learners for two years despite the fact that 80% of the student population is at-risk and 100% receive free lunch.

Existing funding for Early Care and Education totals approximately \$24.2 million, most of it government funds that are highly prescriptive. Some programs may be underutilized because family may believe their ineligibility for one program means they are not eligible for any program. Councilman Chapman recommended the City of Alexandria join efforts at the state and federal level that target eligibility requirements.

UPDATE ON DRAFT CHILDREN AND YOUTH MASTER PLAN ROLL OUT

Two Executive Committee meetings are scheduled for the month of January. The Design Team Co-Chairs – Cynthia Skinner and Dan Solomon will update the draft Children and Youth Master Plan and circulate to the Executive Committee for comment. Any who would like to recommend changes/additions to the draft can share that input with any member of the Executive Committee.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Sean McEneaney reported a meeting of the Budget Committee has been scheduled for February. Tammie Mann provided the report for the Advocacy Committee, which is working on a draft letter in opposition to proposed changes to regulations governing child care subsidies. Andria Cook, Co-Chair of Outreach and Membership, reported that the new CYFCC members have been queried as to the committee preferences. Two applications have been received to date for committee volunteer positions.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ron Frazier announced the date of the Project Discovery Walkathon will be April 26.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.